



Erie County Opiate Epidemic

Task Force Meeting Minutes

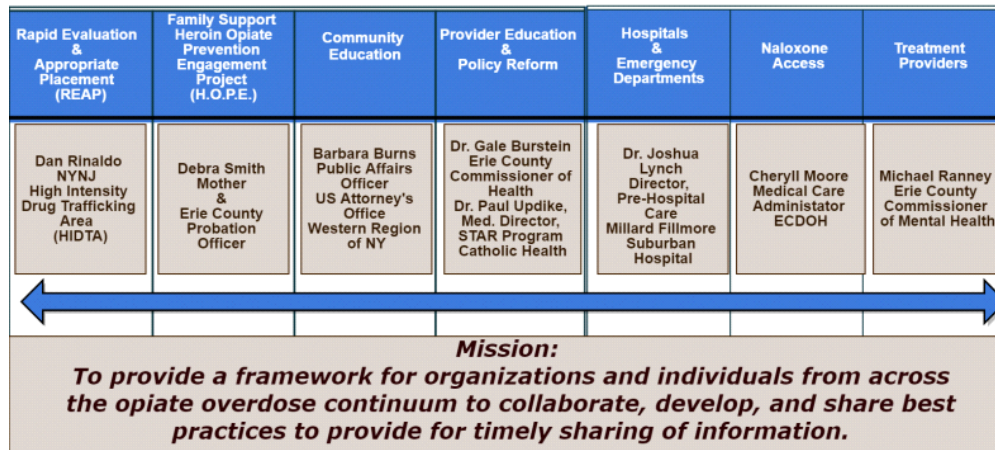
Location:	Erie County Fire Academy
Date:	Tuesday, 3 Jan 2017
Time:	5:00 PM–6:45 PM
Attendees:	John Gaeddert, Deb Smith, Dan Adamczyk, Katey McEvoy, Mark Bucsek, Jackie Sullivan, Sue Boyle

Agenda items

- Meeting notes from December 2016 are posted on the website but many have not reviewed them yet. Please take the opportunity to review them. Motion to accept has been tabled, not everyone has seen the minutes yet.
- Beginning February 2017, workgroup meetings will start at 5:30 PM.
- Thank-You Card Initiative: the group wants to send “Thank You” cards to police departments and 1st responder departments who are carrying Narcan. Since we don’t have a complete list of responders we will ask Cheryll for her list to send cards. We would like to send “Thinking of You” cards to the departments that are not just to let them know we are out here.
 - Participating departments:
 - Non-participating departments:
- Recent Events:
 - Ongoing Family Support Group at Stutzman going well. Might not be listed on the website as a meeting yet.
 - The Friends of Recovery NY group hosted the “Recovery Works” event held at Buffalo Marriott Niagara on 12 Dec 2016. They are a grassroots agency from Monroe County.
 - “Tree of Remembrance and Healing” was in the lobby of the Rath Building from 19 Dec 2016–3 Jan 2017, with personalized ornaments commemorating loved ones. The tree came down 3 Jan 2017. The Health Department kept the ornaments and tree for future displays. Items are being stored in the Health Department, 9th floor Rath Building.
 - Workgroup liked the “laminated tags” design and is requesting more be made for future events.

- Lobbying Committee: on 8 Dec 2016, Robert Smith was sentenced to 13 years in prison. (Smith was arrested for sales of fentanyl, not a causal user opiates, and then caught selling heroin, pending sentence, while out on bail.)
- Community Resource Development (AA/NA; SMART Recovery) information to be compiled into a brochure. Sue Boyle said she will do this piece.
- Upcoming Events:
 - Sunday, 22 January, Delaware Park: Health Walk - WNY Still Standing
 - YouTube Initiative: workgroup wants to make informational videos for Families on “How to recognize signs of addiction” and “How to talk with a loved one whom you think has a substance use issue.”
 - Memorial Wall initiative: The workgroup is still interested in the construction of a portable “Memorial Wall” to commemorate those who have passed. The Memorial Wall would be a very nice addition the Black Balloon Day. When the Facebook announcement goes out we can ask for photos for the Memorial wall.
 - The Memorial and Remembrance Walk for those affected by Suicide, Overdose and Mental Illness is scheduled for Saturday, 20 May 2017, in Cazenovia Park. Contacted the organizer and said the Family Group wants to play an active roll this year.
 - Black Balloon Day: a national day to recognize people who have died from opiate overdoses, and people who have been impacted by the drug epidemic. The tags created from the Christmas event would be very be nice here. Traditionally falls on March 6th, which in 2017 is a Monday.
 - Agenda is being developed and confirmation of site is being lined up.
 - Monday is often a busy news day. News releases should be prepared and ongoing way in advance so we aren't dealing with last minute difficulties. Many previously scheduled events have taken place in 2 or 3 weeks due to new coordination and notice. We now have 8 weeks to get the information out there.
 - For the 2016 event, West Side Youth Coalition donated the balloons and the helium cylinders. Deb will reach out to Nate to see if they still have the grant and are interested.
 - A Facebook event notice will be set up on the Caring for Opiate Affected Loved Ones page once details are confirmed.
 - 28 April: WNY United Against Drug & Alcohol Abuse, Sue Boyle, is putting on a Pastoral Event. John Paul II Parish in Lakeview is hosting the event. (The previous event, "A Pastoral Response to the Substance Abuse Epidemic," was held at Christ the King Seminary in May 2016). It is for clergy only.
- Miscellaneous:

- The ECOTF Erie 2 page does not have the Family Group listed properly. It seems to have a different title depending on where it's posted. (Or maybe some of us are just mis-using the title.)
- The graphic below needs to be corrected, because the HOPE project is associated with Barbara Burns and the Community Education group. (I have found an older copy on the V: Drive dated 25 May 2016, but it's got the old (red) logo, and it's a JPEG, not an editable format.)



- Is there more than one Events Calendar on the DOH website? (Apparently not, but the calendar is listed twice: “Calendar of Events” and “Opioid Calendar of Events.”) And how do we ensure that events are listed in the proper place (added to the calendar)?
- Next workgroup meeting: Tuesday, 7 Feb 2017, 5:30 PM.

Action items	Owner(s)	Deadline	Status
Identify which departments in Erie County are carrying Narcan, and which are not.	John Gaeddert	7 Feb 2017	
Get photo size and character limit specifics for “photo tag” ornaments to the workgroup	John Gaeddert		
Work on creation of “Memorial Wall”	John Gaeddert		
Talk to camera-person for Erie County HOPE Project to	Deb Smith		

possibly film videos for this workgroup			
Find list of questions that people can asked loved ones who have a substance use disorder (SUD)	Deb Smith	7 Feb 2017	
Check calendar- is Treatment Providers meeting listed twice for January?	John Gaeddert		Answer: no, it's not listed twice.
Coordinate with Cheryll and ECDOH staff to set up Black Balloon Day	John Gaeddert		